

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

By the foregoing amendment, claim 1 has been amended. No new matter has been added, the amendment is fully supported by at least Fig. 1 and page 7, line 25 – page 8, line 2. Claim 6 is canceled. Thus, claims 1-5 and 7-19 are currently pending in the application and subject to examination.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ewedemi et al. (U.S. 6,831,684), hereinafter “Ewedemi,” in view of Miyagawa Ryohei (JP 11-331709), hereinafter “Ryohei.” It is noted that claim 1 has been amended. To the extent that the rejection remains applicable to the claims currently pending, the Applicants hereby traverse the rejection as follows.

Applicants’ invention as now set forth in claim 1 is directed to a solid state image pickup device comprising in part a data register configured between analog-digital converters and a non-volatile memory, which writes digital image memory to the non-volatile memory, reads out digital image data stored in the non-volatile memory and horizontally transfers the read-out digital image data.

As discussed on page 7, line 25 – page 8, line 2 of the present application, this data register can be used as a data register (buffer memory) for read/write of the non-volatile memory area. During a read operation, the data register can be used as a horizontal transfer path of an image signal.

In contrast to the claimed data register, Ryohei discloses that the high luminance correction signal memorized in the high luminance correction signal storing memory circuit 10 is transmitted one by one to the synthetic circuit 14 by the horizontal shift register circuit 15. The horizontal shift register circuit 15 is the same as the horizontal shift register circuit 15 used in the pixel signal storing memory circuit 11, and is made to serve a double purpose. That is, each pixel signal transmitted from the pixel signal storing memory circuit 11 and the high luminance correction signal transmitted from the high luminance correction signal storing memory circuit 10 is substantially transmitted to the synthetic circuit 14 by the same horizontal shift register circuit (which is one element) 15 at the same time.

Thus, Ryohei fails to disclose or suggest a solid state image pickup device having at least a data register configured between analog-digital converters and a non-volatile memory, which writes digital image memory to the non-volatile memory, reads out digital image data stored in the non-volatile memory and horizontally transfers the read-out digital image data.

Ewedemi fails to cure the deficiency in Ryohei.

For at least this reason, the Applicants submit that claim 1 is allowable over the cited art. As claim 1 is allowable, the Applicants submit that claims 2-19, which depend from allowable claim 1, are therefore also allowable.

Conclusion

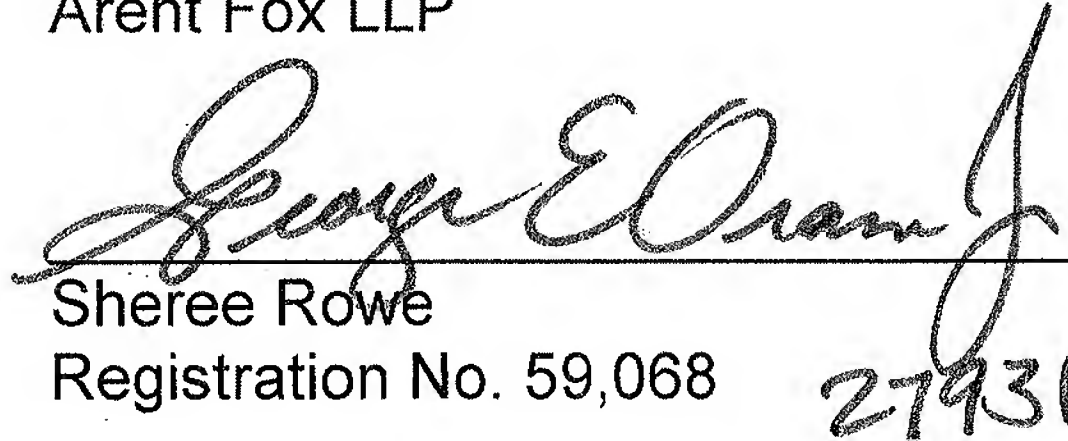
For all of the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-19 are in condition for allowance and a Notice of Allowability is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner determine that any further action is necessary to place this application into better form, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 01-2300 referencing client matter number **107317-00060**.

Respectfully submitted,

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